

of a leaf to the mouth of the vessel, and pressed it closely for some time. On removing my finger I found the bleeding was arrested; I remained for some minutes before I dressed or bandaged it, no bleeding took place, and in nine days the wound was healed, and the man returned to his work as a blacksmith.

Mrs. Murser. This woman accidentally received a wound on the thick part of the thumb, two inches long. When she came to me the wound was bleeding most profusely from two small arteries, which I could very easily have taken up, but as I was anxious to give the matico another trial, I immediately applied a piece of leaf, which covered the mouths of both vessels, and by pressing the edges of the wound on the leaf for a few moments the hæmorrhage ceased. I then put a piece of adhesive plaster round the hand and wound, leaving the piece of matico in the wound. On the fourth day I opened it, when I found the piece of leaf detached and the wound uniting generally. On the ninth day it was completely healed; and now, three weeks since, it continues so, without any inconvenience.

I beg to assure you that I shall continue to avail myself of every opportunity of using the matico, and I shall have much pleasure in communicating my observations. Permit me to say that you are at liberty to make any use you please of these observations, and with every hope that they may prove useful,

I remain, my dear Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

ROBERT HARTLE, M.D., F.R.C.S.E.,

H. P. Deputy Inspector General of Army Hospitals.

To Thomas Jeffreys, Esq., M.D., &c.,
Liverpool.

ON SCORBUTUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

It seems generally admitted that true scurvy is now of rare occurrence,—that it is one of those diseases which the operation of an amended dietary, or of some other change in the general habits of the people of this country has happily nearly extirpated. That this may be mainly owing, as has been stated by some, to potatoes having become a staple article of food for many years seems not improbable; and if the reappearance of scurvy should unhappily be amongst the *mille mali* consequent upon the failure of the potato crop for the last two years, all the force of proof will be given to the opinion.

Be this as it may, I had not seen a case of scorbutus for the last twenty years, when about two months ago my friend Mr. Ince, surgeon to the County Gaol here, requested me to see with him three male prisoners then labouring under the disease in an aggravated form; extreme general debility, stætor of the breath, teeth loose, turgidity and sponginess of the gums, livid subcutaneous spots and ecchymoses on the limbs and muscular contractions were among the symptoms. One of them, a man of dropsical habit, died; the other two recovered and are now quite well.

Nitrate of potash internally, and the chloride of calcium in solution externally, were evidently productive of benefit; but the beneficial effect of change of diet was demonstrated in a very striking manner. In consequence of the scarcity of potatoes, peas were ordered as a substitute in the prison rules, and under the use of the pea food the disease made its appearance. By a very proper regulation in the prison management the surgeon has the power of altering the diet, and Mr. Ince judiciously ordered bread instead of peas, with some porter also. This was immediately followed by improvement in the two cases, and after some time the peas food was resumed, when the symptoms returned, but again yielded to the amended diet.

These seem the only points of interest in the occurrence, and to enter into minute details of particulars would occupy your space and the attention of your readers uselessly.

I cannot, however, conclude without asking leave to express my concurrence in the decision come to by the Committee, to continue the Journal fortnightly. To those, who, like myself, feel a desire to submit a question, as it arises, to the judgment of a numerous and influential body of practitioners like the Provincial Association, the Journal affords the easiest, best, and pleasantest mode of making the communication.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. W. DAVIS.

Presteign, Jan. 20, 1847.

MANIPULATIONS OF A CORN-CURER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

SIR,

Having read in your valuable publication, for December 23rd, 1846, p. 615, a communication headed "Committal of a Corn-Curer for obtaining Money under False Pretences." I now take an opportunity of stating the result of the trial of the chiropodist, and forward to you, for the information of my professional brethren, a particular detail of the artist's mode of operation, and the result of it in the discovery of a nursery of corns, where the most eminent men in our profession appear never to have thought that they were ever grown.

Joseph Wolff, tried at the sessions for the county of Suffolk, held at Beccles, on the 4th instant, on a charge of having, in the borough of Southwold, in that county, on the first of December last, obtained from a gentlemen resident in that town, the sum of one pound by false pretences, represented in the calendar of prisoners as thirty-five years of age, a labourer of the city of Norwich, but who, by his hand bills, had represented himself as Dr. J. Wolff, chiropodist, patronized by a crowned head, and every grade of nobility and gentry, from the throne downwards, was acquitted by the jury on the ground, as it would appear, of insufficient evidence, arising, perhaps, out of the loss of materials, pretended to have been extracted as corns, and the difficulty of shewing that the whole sum